



handel and haydn society

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handel and haydn society

151st Season

DR. EDWARD F. GILDAY, *Conductor*

Concert 974

HANDEL'S MESSIAH

Symphony Hall, Boston

Friday, December 10, 1965 at 8:30 p.m.
Shortened Version

Sunday, December 12, 1965 at 2:30 p.m.
Complete, Uncut "Messiah"

SOLOISTS

KAROL LORAINÉ, *Soprano*

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It is requested that there be no applause except at intermissions. In the complete performance on December 12, there will be two intermissions: after His Yoke is Easy, and Hallelujah! At the concert of December 10, there will be one intermission after His Yoke is Easy.

Numbers with ** will only be sung at the complete performance on December 12.

GEORGE FREDERICK HANDEL

Born in Halle, February 23, 1685

Died in London, April 13, 1759

THE MESSIAH

Oratorio, composed in 1741. Begun August 22, finished September 14. Text selected from the Scriptures by Charles Jennens. Produced in Dublin, April 13, 1742, with the composer conducting. In 1789 Mozart supplied additional orchestral accompaniments. Some of these additions will be used in the present performances, but for the most part the 1902 edition by Ebenezer Prout, Novello edition, will be followed. The first performance by the Handel and Haydn Society was in Boylston Hall, December 25, 1818; present performances are the 229th and 230th.

PART ONE

The Prophecy of a Messiah

God's Promise and Comfort

1. Overture: (Grave: Fugue)

Tenor Recitative

2. Comfort ye my people, saith your God; speak ye comfortably to Jerusalem; and cry unto her that her warfare is accomplished, that her iniquity is pardoned. The voice of him that crieth in the wilderness, Prepare ye the way of the Lord; make straight in the desert a highway for our God.

Tenor Aria

3. Every valley shall be exalted, and every mountain and hill made low: the crooked straight, and the rough places plain.

Chorus

4. And the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together; for the mouth of the Lord hath spoken it.

The Distance Between God and Man

Bass Recitative

5. Thus saith the Lord of Hosts: Yet once a little while, and I will shake the heavens and the earth, the sea and the dry land; and I will shake all nations; and the desire of all nations shall come. The Lord whom ye seek shall suddenly come to His temple, even the messenger of the covenant whom ye delight in; behold, He shall come, saith the Lord of Hosts.

Bass Aria

6. But who may abide the day of His coming! and who shall stand when He appeareth? For He is like a refiner's fire.

**

Chorus

7. And He shall purify the sons of Levi, that they may offer unto the Lord, an offering in righteousness.

The Message of Joy

Alto Recitative

8. Behold, a virgin shall conceive and bear a Son, and shall call His name EMMANUEL, God with us.

Alto Aria and Chorus

9. O Thou, that tellest good tidings to Zion, get thee up into the high mountain,

RIGHT

A

1

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GOOD FOR ANY PERFORMANCE

1

RIGHT
A

Oh Thou, that tellest good tidings to Jerusalem. Lift up thy voice with strength be not afraid, arise shine for thy light is come. Say unto the cities of Judah; Behold your God! The glory of the Lord is risen upon thee.

The Light Breaking Through

Bass Recitative

10. For behold darkness shall cover the earth, and gross darkness the people; but the Lord shall arise upon thee and His glory shall be seen upon thee, and the Gentiles shall come to Thy light, and kings to the brightness of Thy rising.

Bass Aria

11. The people that walked in darkness have seen a great light; and they that dwell in the land of the shadow of death, upon them hath the light shined.

Chorus

12. For unto us a Child is born, unto us a Son is given, and the government shall be upon His shoulder, and His name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, the Mighty God, the Everlasting Father, the Prince of Peace.

The Christmas Message

13. PASTORAL SYMPHONY (on the traditional air of the Calabrian pifferari).

Soprano Recitative

14. There were shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flocks by night. And lo! the angel of the Lord came upon them; and the glory of the Lord shone round about them, and they were sore afraid.

Soprano Recitative

15. And the angel said unto them, Fear not, for behold I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people; for unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord.

Soprano Recitative

16. And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God, and saying:

Chorus

17. Glory to God in the highest; and peace on earth, good will towards men.

Christ's Sojourn on Earth

Soprano Aria

18. Rejoice greatly, O Daughter of Zion; shout, O daughter of Jerusalem! Behold thy King cometh unto thee! He is the righteous Saviour; and He shall speak peace unto the heathen.

Alto Recitative

19. Then shall the eyes of the blind be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped; then shall the lame man leap as an hart, and the tongue of the dumb shall sing.

Alto and Soprano Aria

20. He shall feed His flock like a shepherd; and He shall gather the lambs with His arm, and carry them in His bosom; and gently lead those that are with young . . . Come unto Him, all ye that labor and are heavy laden, and He will give you rest; Take His yoke upon you and learn of Him; for He is meek and lowly of heart, and ye shall find rest unto your souls.

Chorus

21. His yoke is easy, and His burden is light.

PART TWO

The Redemption — Man's Rejection of Christ — Man's Defeat in
Opposing the Almighty
The Suffering of Christ

Chorus

22. Behold the Lamb of God that taketh away the sin of the world.

Alto Aria

23. He was despised and rejected of men; a man of sorrows and acquainted with grief. He gave His back to the smiters, and His cheeks to them that plucked off the hair; He hid not His face from shame and spitting.

Chorus

24. Surely He hath borne our griefs, and carried our sorrows! He was wounded for our transgressions; He was bruised for our iniquities; the chastisement of our peace was upon Him.

* *

Chorus

25. And with His stripes we are healed!

Chorus

26. All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way. And the Lord hath laid on Him the iniquity of us all.

* *

Tenor Recitative

27. All they that see Him, laugh Him to scorn; they shoot out their lips, and shake their heads, saying:

* *

Chorus

28. He trusted in God that He would deliver Him, Let Him deliver Him, if He delight in Him.

Tenor Recitative

29. Thy rebuke hath broken His heart. He is full of heaviness; He looked for some to have pity of Him but there was no man; neither found He any to comfort Him.

Tenor Aria

30. Behold and see, if there be any sorrow like unto His sorrow.

* *

Tenor Recitative

31. He was cut off out of the land of the living; for the transgression of Thy people was He stricken.

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The Resurrection

* *

Tenor Aria

32. But thou didst not leave His soul in hell; nor didst Thou suffer Thy Holy One to see corruption.

Chorus

33. Lift up your heads, O ye gates, and be ye lift up, ye everlasting doors, and the King of Glory shall come in. Who is this King of Glory? The Lord strong and mighty, the Lord mighty in battle. Lift up your heads, O ye gates, and be ye lift up, ye everlasting doors, and the King of Glory shall come in. Who is the King of Glory? The Lord of Hosts, He is the King of Glory.

* *

Tenor Recitative

34. Unto which of the Angels said He at any time, Thou art My Son, this day have I begotten Thee?

* *

Chorus

35. Let all the Angels of God worship Him.

* *

Bass Aria

36. Thou art gone up on high. Thou hast led captivity captive, and received gifts for men; yea, even for thine enemies, that the Lord God might dwell among them.

The Spread of the Gospel

* *

Chorus

37. The Lord gave the Word; Great was the company of the preachers.

Soprano Aria

38. How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings of good things.

* *

Chorus

39. Their sound is gone out unto all lands, and their words unto the ends of the world.

The Reception of the Gospel

Bass Aria

40. Why do the nations so furiously rage together; and why do the people imagine a vain thing? The kings of the earth rise up, and the rulers take counsel together, against the Lord, and against His anointed.

Chorus

41. Let us break their bonds asunder, and cast away their yokes from us.

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God Will Triumph

Tenor Recitative

42. He that dwelleth in heaven shall laugh them to scorn; the Lord shall have them in derision.

Tenor Aria

43. Thou shalt break them, Thou shalt break them with a rod of iron; Thou shalt dash them in pieces like a potter's vessel.

Chorus

44. Hallelujah! For the Lord God Omnipotent reigneth. The kingdom of this world is become the kingdom of our Lord and of His Christ; and He shall reign for ever and ever **KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS, HALLELUJAH!**

PART THREE

Thanksgiving for the Defeat of Death

Prologue

Soprano Aria

45. I know that my Redeemer liveth; and that He shall stand at the latter day upon the earth; and though worms destroy this body, yet in my flesh shall I see God. For now is Christ risen from the dead, the first fruits of them that sleep.

Hope

Chorus

46. Since by man came death, by man came also the resurrection of the dead. For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive.

Triumph Over Death

Bass Recitative

47. Behold, I tell you a mystery; We shall not all sleep; but we shall all be changed in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet.

Bass Aria

48. The trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible; and we shall be changed. For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality.

* *

Alto Recitative

49. Then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written, Death is swallow'd up in victory.

* *

Alto and Tenor Duet

50. O death, where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy victory? The sting of death is sin, and the strength of sin is the law.

* *

Chorus

51. But thanks be to God, who giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

* *

Soprano Aria

52. If God be for us, who can be against us? Who shall lay anything to the charge of God's elect? It is God that justifieth. Who is he that condemneth? It is Christ that died, yea rather, that is risen again, who is at the right hand of God, who makes intercession for us.

Epilogue

53. Worthy is the Lamb that was slain and hath redeemed us to God by His blood, to receive power and riches and wisdom, and strength and honour, and glory and blessing. Blessing and honour, glory and power be unto Him that sitteth upon the throne, and unto the Lamb, forever and ever.

Amen.

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HALLELUJAH, Amen!

The story of the Handel & Haydn
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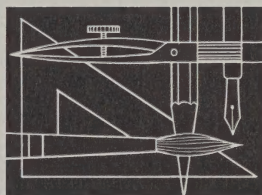
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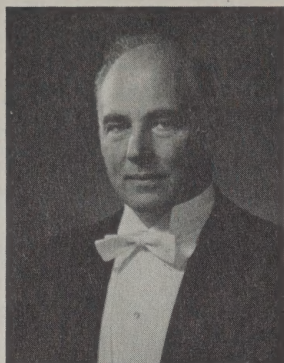
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